

MINUTES
WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
January 11, 2010
7:00 P.M.

Present: Tom Costley, Chairman, Jane B. Allen, David A. Rempell, Ronald Turbin, Thomas E. Sheldon

Others Present: Richard Hamblin, Mary Kennedy, Kathy Thompson, Mark Reinhardt, Betty Ann LaBombard, John Galusha, Shawn Godfrey, Peter Fohlin, Kathy Poirot

1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING STATEMENT: None.

2. SELECTMEN'S MINUTES: December 14, 2009 – Mr. Rempell moved to approve the December 14, 2009 minutes. Ms. Allen seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

3. ITEMS FOR SELECTMEN'S CONSIDERATION:

- A.** Housing Authority Resignation – Mr. Rempell moved to accept, with thanks, Marilyn Head's resignation from the Housing Authority. Ms. Allen seconded and the motion carried unanimously.
- B.** Housing Authority Appointment – Ms. Kennedy nominated Richard Hamblin to serve on the Housing Authority until the 2010 May election. Mr. Rempell seconded the nomination and Mr. Hamblin was appointed by roll call vote, aye, Mary Kennedy, aye, Mark Reinhardt, aye, Kathy Thompson, aye, David Rempell, aye, Jane Allen, aye, Tom Costley, aye, Ronald Turbin, and aye, Thomas Sheldon.
- C.** Agricultural Preservation Restriction Galusha's Fairfield Dairy LLC – Ms. Allen stated Williamstown Rural Lands Executive Director Leslie Reed-Evans was not available this evening, due to a scheduling conflict, to explain the form presented to the Board for their signatures. She also said that even though the agenda item looks like a request for an Agricultural Preservation Restriction for Fairfield Farms, it is a reference document requested by the state. According to an e-mail addressed to the Board from Ms. Reed-Evans, the document is kept on file at the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources for the purpose of determining the municipal match amount required for proposed APR projects. The application ranks Williamstown's commitment to agriculture through a point system and the signing of the document is required because there is not an up-to-date APR-Muni (municipal) application on file with the state. Ms. Reed-Evans also wrote that the WRLF has forwarded this document on behalf of the Mass. Department of Agriculture. Although this form was triggered by the proposed APR application for 117 acres of farmland belonging to the Galusha family's Fairfield Dairy LLC, it is a general requirement rather than one strictly for the Fairfield Farms. Mr. Galusha reiterated Ms. Reed-Evans e-mail to the selectmen. Selectmen confirmed the criteria acknowledged on the application but asked the Town Manager to clarify #13 and #3C on the document. Mr. Costley moved to table the signing of the document until the next meeting so that the Town Manager could go over the form with Ms. Reed-Evans. Mr. Sheldon seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

- D. EMS Service Zone Plan** – Shawn Godfrey, Village Ambulance Service operations manager, presented an EMS Service Zone Plan Application for the Chairman’s signature. He said the plan was done in order to fulfill a state requirement mandating that cities and towns statewide submit plans defining the resources of local emergency medical services and a description of how those resources will be used and coordinated to the Department of Public Health. The plan covers the towns of Williamstown, New Ashford and Hancock and ambulance service’s responsibilities to those towns including back up plans, staffing requirements and their responsibilities in responding to local emergencies. Mr. Godfrey said once he obtains signatures from all of the towns, he can submit the plan to the state. Mr. Sheldon noted that the document had a few typing errors that need to be corrected and Mr. Turbin asked for an amendment on page 7, third paragraph, from “the Primary Ambulance Service Provider providing information “on request” to the Town Managers/Chairmen” to add after the first sentence “The information shall also be provided upon request by the Town Managers/Chairmen”. Mr. Costley moved to accept the “plan” with the amendment and typing error corrections and that the Chairman sign the plan. Mr. Sheldon seconded and the motion carried unanimously.
- E. Water & Sewer Warrant** - \$250,516.55 – Mr. Rempell moved to approve the water and sewer warrant in the amount of \$250,516.55. Ms. Allen seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

4. PETITIONER’S REQUEST: None.

5. TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT: see attached.

6. OTHER BUSINESS: Mr. Sheldon asked the Town Manager for an update on the progress in the legislature regarding the Board of Library Trustees membership increase from five to seven that was approved at the 2009 Town Meeting. The Town Manager said he received an e-mail from Senator Downing stating that the bill is in its final form and moving along in the legislature. Mr. Fohlin said he is hopeful that the additional two members could be elected in May.

7. ADJOURN: Mr. Rempell moved to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Ms. Allen seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The next Selectmen Meeting is on Monday, January 25, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Sheldon, Secretary